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Agenda item 97

Verification in all its aspects, including the role of the United Nations in the field of verification

Report of the First Committee

Rapporteur: Mr. Dainius **Baublys** (Lithuania)

I. Introduction

1. The item entitled “Verification in all its aspects, including the role of the United Nations in the field of verification” was included in the provisional agenda of the sixty-second session of the General Assembly in accordance with Assembly decision 61/514 of 6 December 2006.
2. At its 3rd plenary meeting, on 21 September 2007, the General Assembly, on the recommendation of the General Committee, decided to include the item in its agenda and to allocate it to the First Committee.
3. At its 1st meeting, on 4 October 2007, the First Committee decided to hold a general debate on all disarmament and international security items allocated to it, namely, items 88 to 105, which was held at the 2nd to 8th meetings, from 8 to 11 and on 15 and 16 October (see A/C.1/62/PV.2-8). The Committee also held 12 meetings (9th to 20th), for an exchange of views with the High Representative for Disarmament Affairs and other high-level officials, as well as panel discussions with independent experts and follow-up to resolutions and decisions adopted at previous sessions (see A/C.1/62/PV.9-20). Thematic discussions on the items were held, and draft resolutions were introduced and considered, also at the 9th to 20th meetings, from 17 to 19, from 22 to 26 and on 29 October (see A/C.1/62/PV.9-20). Action on all draft resolutions was taken at the 21st to 25th meetings, from 30 October to 2 November (see A/C.1/62/PV.21-25).
4. For its consideration of the item, the Committee had before it a note by the Secretary-General on verification in all its aspects, including the role of the United Nations in the field of verification (A/61/1028).



II. Consideration of draft resolution A/C.1/62/L.47

5. On 18 October, the Committee had before it a draft resolution entitled “Verification in all its aspects, including the role of the United Nations in the field of verification” (A/C.1/62/L.47), submitted by Canada. Subsequently, Argentina, Austria, Belgium, Benin, Bulgaria, China, Croatia, Cyprus, the Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Japan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Latvia, Liechtenstein, Luxembourg, Malta, Mexico, the Netherlands, New Zealand, Nigeria, Poland, Portugal, the Republic of Korea, Romania, the Russian Federation, Serbia, Singapore, Slovakia, Slovenia, South Africa, Spain, Sri Lanka, Sweden, Switzerland, Ukraine, the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland and the United States of America joined in sponsoring the draft resolution.

6. At its 23rd meeting, on 31 October, the Committee adopted draft resolution A/C.1/62/L.47 without a vote (see para. 7).

III. Recommendation of the First Committee

7. The First Committee recommends to the General Assembly the adoption of the following draft resolution:

Verification in all its aspects, including the role of the United Nations in the field of verification

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolution 59/60 of 3 December 2004, in which it requested the Secretary-General, with the assistance of a panel of government experts, to explore the question of verification in all its aspects, including the role of the United Nations in the field of verification,

Noting two previous reports of the Secretary-General on the subject submitted in 1990 and 1995,¹

Recalling its request to the Secretary-General, in resolution 59/60, to transmit to it the report of the Panel of Government Experts on verification in all its aspects, including the role of the United Nations in the field of verification, and the intent of the Panel to produce a report that is forward-looking and discerning of new trends and requirements,

1. *Takes note* of the report of the Panel of Government Experts on verification in all its aspects, including the role of the United Nations in the field of verification,² transmitted by the Secretary-General on 15 August 2007, acknowledges that the report was unanimously approved by the Panel of Government Experts, and commends the report to the attention of Member States;

2. *Requests* the Secretary-General to give the report the widest possible circulation;

3. *Encourages* Member States to consider the report, and invites Member States to offer additional views to the Secretary-General on the report;

4. *Requests* the Secretary-General to submit to the General Assembly at its sixty-third session a compilation of views received from Member States, relevant United Nations organs and international treaty organizations with respect to the report;

5. *Decides* to include in the provisional agenda of its sixty-fourth session the item entitled "Verification in all its aspects, including the role of the United Nations in the field of verification".

¹ A/45/372 and Corr.1 and A/50/377 and Corr.1.

² A/61/1028.